

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

INFO AID/LSB NEW CUMBERLAND ARMY DEPOT NC PA.

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, MX

SUBJECT: EXCESS PROPERTY - GOM REQUEST FOR DDT

1. SUMMARY: GOM HAS REQUESTED LARGE QUANTITIES OF INSEC-
TICIDE THROUGH THE AID EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM FOR USE IN
COTTON CULTIVATION. DDT IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THIS PROGRAM,
BUT THERE IS AN AID PROHIBITION AGAINST US ASSISTANCE FOR
CERTAIN NONFOOD CROPS, COTTON BEING IN THAT CATEGORY.
EMBASSY IS ASKED TO DETERMINE BACKGROUND OF GOM REQUEST
AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION AS TO COURSE US SHOULD FOLLOW
IN DEALING WITH IT. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE JULY 24 FROM
MEXICAN EMBASSY REQUESTING 4,500 TONS METHYL PARATHION,
2,000 TONS MONOCHLOROPHOS, AND EITHER 2,000 TONS OF CONCEN-
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TRATED DDT OR 10,000 TONS OF FORMULA DDT QUOTE FOR AGRI-

CULTURAL USES, IN THE NAME OF THE SECRETARIAT OF NATIONAL PATRIMONY OF MEXICO, FOR THE USE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM MEXICAN AGRICULTURALISTS, PARTICULARLY FOR THE CULTIVATION OF COTTON UNQUOTE.

3. BOTH KINDS OF DDT ARE AVAILABLE IN THE QUANTITY DESIRED AS EXCESS PROPERTY BUT NEITHER METHYL PARATHION NOR MONOCHLOROPHOS IS. MORE DETAILS WOULD HAVE TO BE KNOWN ABOUT THE PROPOSED PROJECT, HOWEVER, BEFORE A 607(A)

DETERMINATION COULD BE MADE.

4. AID MANUAL ORDER 1016.2 PROHIBITS US ASSISTANCE FOR QUOTE NONFOOD CROPS IN WORLD SURPLUS UNQUOTE. COTTON FALLS IN THIS CATEGORY. THE APPLICABLE SECTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE II. POLICY

D. ASSISTANCE SHALL NOT BE GIVEN TO INCREASE THE PRODUCTION OF NONFOOD CROPS IN WORLD SURPLUS. HOWEVER, CONSIDERATION MAY BE GIVEN ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS TO ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE STORAGE, HANDLING, PROCESSING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF NONFOOD CROPS IN WORLD SURPLUS PROVIDED:

1. THE UNITED STATES IS A NET IMPORTER OF SUCH NONFOOD CROPS.

2. SUCH ASSISTANCE IS DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO EFFECT SAVINGS BENEFICIAL TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY WITHOUT ANY APPRECIABLE EFFECT ON THE VOLUME OF EXPORTS.

E. THESE CRITERIA ARE APPLICABLE TO THE PROGRAMMING OF ALL DOLLAR FUNDS, INCLUDING CAPITAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS, AND TO LOCAL CURRENCIES SUBJECT TO AID CONTROL, COUNTRY-OWNED AS WELL AS US-OWNED, WHICH ARE GENERATED FROM AID-FINANCED PROGRAMS AND PL 480, TITLE I, SALES PROGRAMS.

F. IF THE MISSION JUDGES THAT AN ACTIVITY NOT PERMITTED UNDER THE ABOVE CRITERIA IS ESSENTIAL TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF AN IMPORTANT US OBJECTIVE, THE MISSION SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBMIT A FULLY DOCUMENTED JUSTIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF ITS JUDGMENT TO AID/W FOR REVIEW BY THE PERTINENT REGIONAL BUREAU AND THE OFFICE OF THE WAR ON HUNGER AND CONSIDERATION BY THE ADMINISTRATOR IN LIGHT OF THE TOTAL US INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES. UNQUOTE.

5. IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THIS PROPOSED EXCESS PROPERTY TRANSFER WOULD BE SUBJECTED TO THE ABOVE PROHIBITION,

BUT THAT DECISION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY THE AID ADMINISTRATOR.

6. BACKGROUND: MR. WILHIDE OF WILHIDE ASSOCIATES (A FIRM WHICH REPRESENTS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.) AND MR. CRAVATTA, A MECHANICAL ENGINEER (NAME OF HIS FIRM UNKNOWN), HAVE CALLED THE DEPARTMENT REPEATEDLY SINCE JULY 19, WITH REFERENCE TO THE MEXICAN NEED FOR DDT. MR. CRAVATTA STATED THAT AN IMPORTANT MEXICAN, WHO WISHED TO REMAIN

ANONYMOUS, HAD COME TO WASHINGTON TO SPEAK WITH THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR ABOUT THIS; THAT THE DDT WAS NEEDED FOR MALARIA ERADICATION AND ANTHRAX CONTROL AND THAT TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE--THE DDT WAS NEEDED WITHIN A MONTH. CRAVATTA LATER IDENTIFIED THE MEXICAN AS FERNANDO YSITA, AND SAID HE WAS QUOTE ONE OF THE TOP LAWYERS IN MEXICO UNQUOTE. THE FIRST MENTION OF ITS USE FOR COTTON CULTIVATION WAS IN THE NOTE FROM THE MEXICAN EMBASSY.

7. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN THE BACKGROUND OF THE GOM REQUEST FOR DDT AND DETAILS OF ITS PROPOSED USE; AND TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE PROCEDURES IN II.F OF AID MO 1016.2 SHOULD BE FOLLOWED, IF APPLICABLE, IN AN EFFORT TO GET THE DDT TO THE GOM, WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF THE EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM. KISSINGER

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